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ABSTRACT

Trends in degrees conferred by Connecticut institutions of higher education from 1970-1971 to 1979-1980 are reviewed. After rising steadily to 1973-1974, the number of degrees conferred has fluctuated between 26,000 and 27,000 for the balance of the decade. The proportion of degrees awarded by institutions in the public sector rose from 52.4 percent of all degrees conferred in 1970-1971 to 55.3 percent in 1979-1980, and public institutions awarded 89.6 percent of all certificates, 75.1 percent of all associates degrees, and 51.7 percent of the bachelors degrees in 1979-1980. The independent sector conferred the majority of masters degrees (51.8 percent), doctoral degrees (61.9 percent), and first-professional degrees (64.2 percent) in the same year. In 1979-1980, the largest number of bachelors degrees was awarded in business and management, followed by social sciences and education. Masters degrees in education ranked first in the number of awards over the 10-year period. They peaked at 3,337 in 1975-1976 then fell to 2,325 in 1979-1980--200 less than the 1970-1971 level. Masters degrees in business and management have quadrupled from 314 to 1,249 during this same period. The number of masters degrees awarded in education, however, was still almost double the number of masters degrees awarded in business and management in 1979-1980. While women were proportionately underrepresented at all six degree levels in the combined public and independent sectors in 1970-1971, their representation was close to parity at the associates and masters degree levels by 1974-1975. By 1979-1980, women were the majority of degree recipients at all but the first-professional and doctoral degree levels. Minority students received 4.9 percent of the awards in 1975-1976 and by 1978-1979 minority students received 5.2 percent of all awards. (SW)

BHE reports

R-5-81

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BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
61 WOODLAND STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06105

October 1981

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION 1970-71 to 1979-80

This report reviews degrees conferred by Connecticut institutions of higher education from 1970-71 to 1979-80.[1] It is the fifth in a series examining current trends in Connecticut higher education.

Highlights

- 26,417 degrees were conferred by Connecticut institutions of higher education in the 1979-80 period. After rising steadily to 1973-74, the number of degrees conferred has fluctuated between 26,000 and 27,000 for the balance of the decade.
- The proportion of degrees awarded by institutions in the public sector rose from 52.4 percent of all degrees conferred in 1970-71 to 55.3 percent in 1979-80.
- Public institutions awarded 89.6 percent of all certificates, 75.1 percent of all associates degrees and 51.7 percent of the bachelors degrees in 1979-80. The independent sector conferred the majority of masters degrees (51.8%), doctoral degrees (61.9%), and first-professional degrees (64.2%) in the same year.
- In 1979-80, the largest number of bachelors degrees was awarded in business and management, followed by social sciences and education. Education was in first place in 1970-71, peaked in 1971-72 at 3,270 degrees, and fell by 60.5 percent to 1,292 in 1979-80. Bachelors degrees in business and management have risen 90.9 percent to 2,474 degrees over the ten-year period.

  In 1979-80, bachelors degrees in technical disciplines combined (biological sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering, mathematics and physical sciences) totaled 2,203, fewer than the number of bachelors degrees in business and management (2,474).

[1]Source: HEGIS form 2300-2.1 for the years 1970-71 to 1979-80. Annual degrees conferred data cover a period from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

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- Masters degrees[2] in education ranked first in the number of awards over the ten-year period. They peaked at 3,337 in 1975-76 then fell to 2,325 in 1979-80, 200 less than the 1970-71 level. Masters degrees in business and management have quadrupled from 314 to 1,249 during this same period. The number of masters degrees awarded in education, however, was still almost double the number of masters degrees awarded in business and management in 1979-80.

- While women were proportionately underrepresented at all six-degree levels in the combined public and independent sectors in 1970-71, their representation was close to parity at the associates and masters degree levels by 1974-75. By 1979-80, women were the majority of degree recipients at all but the first-professional and doctoral degree levels.

Overview

At the national level, historical trend data indicate that of all bachelors degrees awarded over the past 100 years, approximately half have been conferred within the past ten years alone. For those degrees beyond the bachelors level, the proportion is somewhat higher. While historical data are not available in Connecticut, they are likely to reflect national trends.

Table 1, for example, shows that the number of degrees granted by Connecticut institutions of higher education bears a steady relationship to national trends. Connecticut granted 1.4 percent of all degrees conferred nationally in 1979-80, while Connecticut's population represented 1.4 percent of the total United States population in that same year.

TABLE 1

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL TOTALS

	1970-71	1974-75	1979-80*
Certificates	0.7%	0.2%	0.3%
Associates	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%
Bachelors	1.4%	1.5%	1.4%
Masters	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%
Doctoral	1.6%	1.7%	1.5%
First-Professional	1.2%	1.0%	1.3%
ALL DEGREES	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%

*Preliminary national data from National Center for Education Statistics.

[2]Masters degrees are defined to include Certificate of Advanced Study and the Master of Philosophy degree. (There were 314 such awards in 1979-80.)

During the 1979-80 academic year, Connecticut institutions of higher education conferred 26,417 degrees (Table 2).[3] This represents an increase of 183 degrees from 1978-79 and a rise of 0.7 percent. Compared with the 1970-71 period, there is an increase of 5,044 degrees and a rise of 23.6 percent. The peak year was 1977-78 with a total of 27,085 degrees conferred.

TABLE 2

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, BY SECTOR AND LEVEL OF AWARD

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980

	1970-1971	1971-1972	1972-1973	1973-1974	1974-1975	1975-1976	1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979	1979-1980
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS										
Certificates	285	182	273	274	168	199	253	291	239	275
Associates	2,160	2,607	3,129	3,466	3,616	3,808	4,147	4,111	4,075	4,061
Bachelors	5,876	6,857	7,687	7,815	7,781	7,633	7,489	7,462	7,117	6,811
Masters	2,606	2,688	2,993	2,995	3,200	3,499	3,498	3,340	3,045	2,937
Doctoral	158	204	176	191	193	217	200	189	161	194
First-Professional	105	204	234	245	233	279	299	296	338	337
TOTAL	11,190	12,742	14,492	14,986	15,191	15,634	15,886	15,689	14,975	14,615
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS										
Certificates	53	2	2	-	4	2	1	10	69	32
Associates	1,153	985	1,026	1,202	1,233	1,213	1,199	1,346	1,421	1,347
Bachelors	5,766	5,885	6,132	6,727	6,043	6,238	6,126	6,207	5,880	6,355
Masters	2,506	2,666	2,959	3,438	3,091	3,260	3,179	3,113	3,156	3,153
Doctoral	361	367	386	386	387	362	327	348	351	310
First-Professional	344	389	375	329	318	373	348	372	382	605
TOTAL	10,183	10,294	10,880	12,082	11,076	11,448	11,180	11,396	11,259	11,802
ALL INSTITUTIONS										
Certificates	338	184	275	274	172	201	254	301	308	307
Associates	3,313	3,592	4,155	4,668	4,849	5,021	5,316	5,457	5,496	5,408
Bachelors	11,642	12,742	13,819	14,542	13,824	13,870	13,615	13,669	12,997	13,166
Masters	5,112	5,354	5,952	6,433	6,291	6,759	6,677	6,453	6,201	6,090
Doctoral	519	571	562	577	580	579	527	537	512	504
First-Professional	449	593	609	574	551	652	647	668	720	942
GRAND TOTAL	21,373	23,036	25,372	27,068	26,267	27,082	27,066	27,085	26,234	26,417

The proportion of all degrees conferred by the public sector in Connecticut rose from 52.4 percent of the total in 1970-71 to 57.8 percent in 1974-75, and then fell to 55.3 percent by 1979-80.

[3]Supplement 1 to this report, available upon request, contains tables for 1970-71 to 1979-80 showing degrees awarded by institution, sector, and gender.

At the award levels of certificates,[4] bachelors, and masters the institutional sectors have maintained their respective proportions of degrees conferred over the ten-year period. Public institutions awarded 89.6 percent of all certificates in 1979-80, 51.7 percent of all bachelors degrees, and 48.2 percent of all masters degrees. Over the course of the decade, public institutions have increased their share of associates degrees, from 65.2 percent of the total number conferred in 1970-71 to 75.1 percent of the total in 1979-80.

The independent sector still confers the majority of doctoral and first-professional degrees, although the number of awards made by the public sector has grown at a faster rate during the ten-year period. In 1979-80, independent institutions conferred 61.5 percent of all doctoral degrees, compared to 69.6 percent in 1970-71. The percentage share of first-professional degrees in the independent sector has declined from 76.6 percent in 1970-71 to 64.2 percent in 1979-80.

The number of certificate recipients has fluctuated in both sectors over ten years. At the associates degree level, the number of degree recipients in the public sector has risen 46.8 percent while growth at this degree level in the independent sector was 14.4 percent. At the bachelors and masters degree levels, the number of degree recipients in the public sector grew by 13.7 and 11.3 percent, respectively. In the independent sector, growth was 9.3 and 20.5 percent, respectively. At the doctoral degree level, the number of recipients in the public sector has increased 18.6 percent while the number of recipients in the independent sector has declined 16.5 percent. The number of first-professional degree recipients increased in both sectors with a 68.8 percent increase at the public institutions and a 43.1 percent increase at the independent institutions.

As Figure 1 indicates, the number of certificates and doctoral degrees granted annually over the ten-year period has remained relatively stable. There have been some changes, however, in the number of degrees conferred at the other levels. The number of associates degrees has risen steadily, increasing 65.9 percent from 3,313 in 1970-71 to 5,496 in 1978-79. There was then a minor downturn in 1979-80 to 5,408 associates degrees. Bachelors degrees, which represent close to 50 percent of all awards in any one year, rose from 11,642 degrees in 1970-71 to a peak of 14,542 in 1973-74. There has been a general downward trend since that time, with 13,166 degrees conferred in 1979-80, 13.1 percent more than in 1970-71. The number of masters degrees conferred peaked at 6,759 in 1975-76

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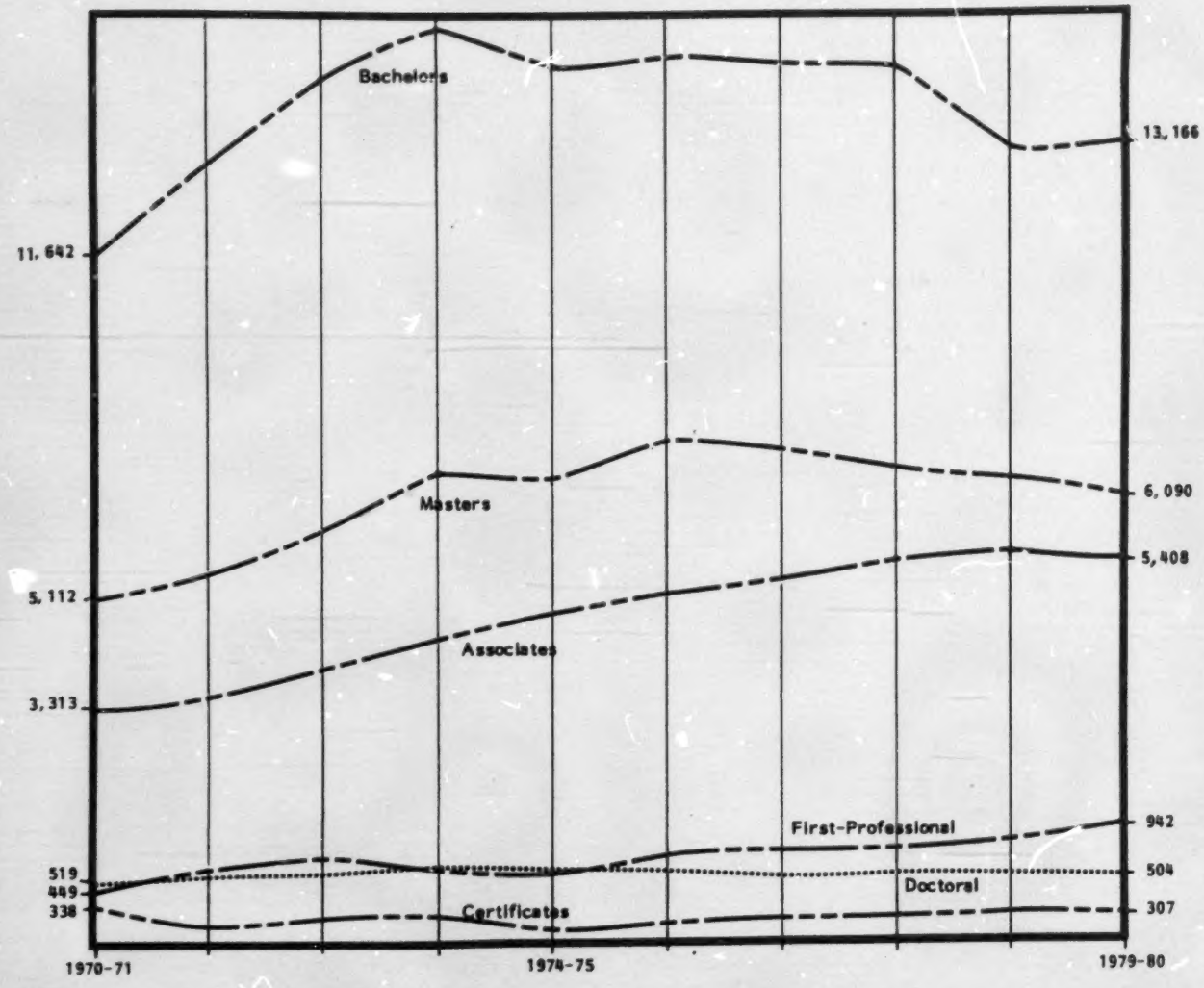
[4]A certificate is defined as an award below the associates degree which requires at least one year of postsecondary study.

and has been declining slowly since then. The number conferred in 1979-80 (6,090) is still higher than the 1970-71 level (5,112). First-professional degrees have more than doubled over the ten-year period from 449 to 942 degrees. This increase was influenced by the addition of a law school at the University of Bridgeport, which awarded 219 degrees in 1979-80.

FIGURE 1

DEGREES CONFERRED ANNUALLY BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



DEGREES CONFERRED BY DISCIPLINE

Table 3 displays the degrees conferred in selected disciplines by degree level for 1970-71 and 1979-80.[5]

TABLE 3

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SELECTED DISCIPLINES AND PERCENT CHANGE 1970-71 and 1979-80

Discipline	CERTIFICATES			ASSOCIATES		
	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change
Arts & Science	40	8	- 80.0%	1,462	1,523	+ 21.0%
Business & Commerce	2	58	+2,800.0%	751	1,542	+105.3%
Data Processing	-	6	-	129	299	+131.8%
Health Services	-	40	-	229	766	+234.5%
Mechanical & Engineering	68	108	+ 58.8%	621	586	- 5.6%
Natural Science	215	53	- 75.3%	1	26	+2,500.0%
Public Service	13	34	+161.5%	120	566	+371.1%

Discipline	BACHELORS			MASTERS			DOCTORAL		
	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change
Biological Sciences	387	759	+ 96.1%	72	187	+159.7%	53	63	+ 18.9%
Business & Management	1,296	2,474	+ 90.9%	314	1,240	+297.8%	-	5	-
Computer & Info Sciences	13	138	+961.5%	54	74	+ 37.0%	2	8	+300.0%
Education	2,745	1,292	- 52.9%	2,525	2,325	- 7.9%	46	66	+ 43.5%
Engineering	500	747	+ 49.4%	213	181	- 15.0%	51	19	- 62.7%
Health Professions	337	871	+158.5%	65	264	+306.2%	8	10	+ 25.0%
Letters	1,500	985	- 34.3%	221	104	- 52.9%	84	55	- 34.5%
Physical Sciences	273	369	+ 35.2%	58	90	+ 55.2%	83	59	- 28.9%
Social Sciences	2,383	2,101	- 11.8%	228	204	- 10.5%	82	92	+ 12.2%

Discipline	FIRST-PROFESSIONAL		
	1970-71	1979-80	Percent Change
Dentistry	-	43	-
Law	264	595	+125.4%
Medicine	87	189	+117.2%
Theological Professions	61	115	+ 88.5%

[5]At the certificate, associates, and first-professional levels, the discipline categories used represent the complete list of HEGIS disciplines in which degrees were granted in Connecticut. At the bachelors, masters, and doctoral levels, the total number of disciplines in which degrees are conferred is 24. Eight of those selected customarily have been used when examining degrees conferred. All ranked within the top ten at the combined bachelors, masters, and doctoral degree levels. Computer and Information Sciences has been added because of current manpower needs. See Appendix A for a complete list of the HEGIS taxonomy of disciplines. Supplement 2, available upon request, lists all degrees conferred in 1979-80 by discipline and institution.

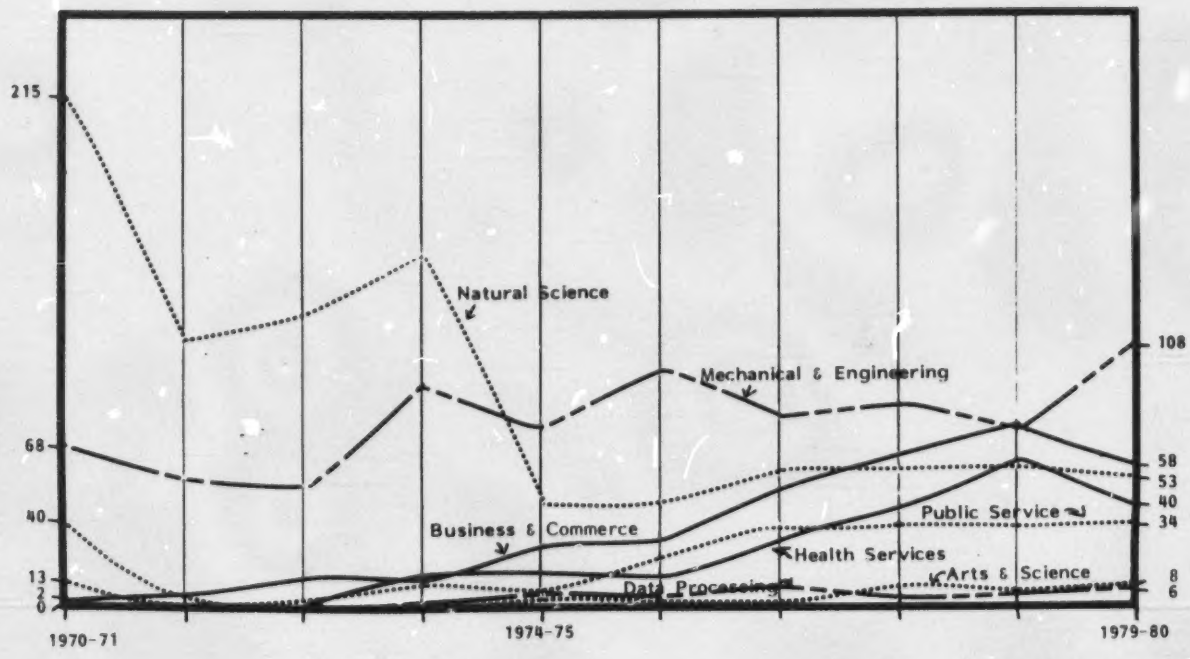
Certificates

In 1979-80, 307 certificates were awarded compared to 338 in 1970-71. Figure 2 shows the trends in certificates awarded in the seven discipline categories by which they are reported.

FIGURE 2

CERTIFICATES AWARDED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISCIPLINE

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



Awards in natural science have declined 75.3 percent, from 215 certificates in 1970-71 to 53 in 1979-80. The other discipline which had a net loss is arts and science, from 40 awards in 1970-71 to 8 in 1979-80. Mechanical and engineering technologies showed a 58.8 percent rise from 68 certificates in 1970-71 to 108 in 1979-80. With the exception of 1978-79, this has proved to be the most popular discipline since 1974-75. Previously, it was surpassed only by natural science. Awards in business and commerce climbed from 2 to 58 over the ten-year period with a peak of 75 awards in 1978-79. Health services and public service awards have also made gains, especially since the middle of the 1970s. Fewer than 10 certificates are awarded each year in data processing.

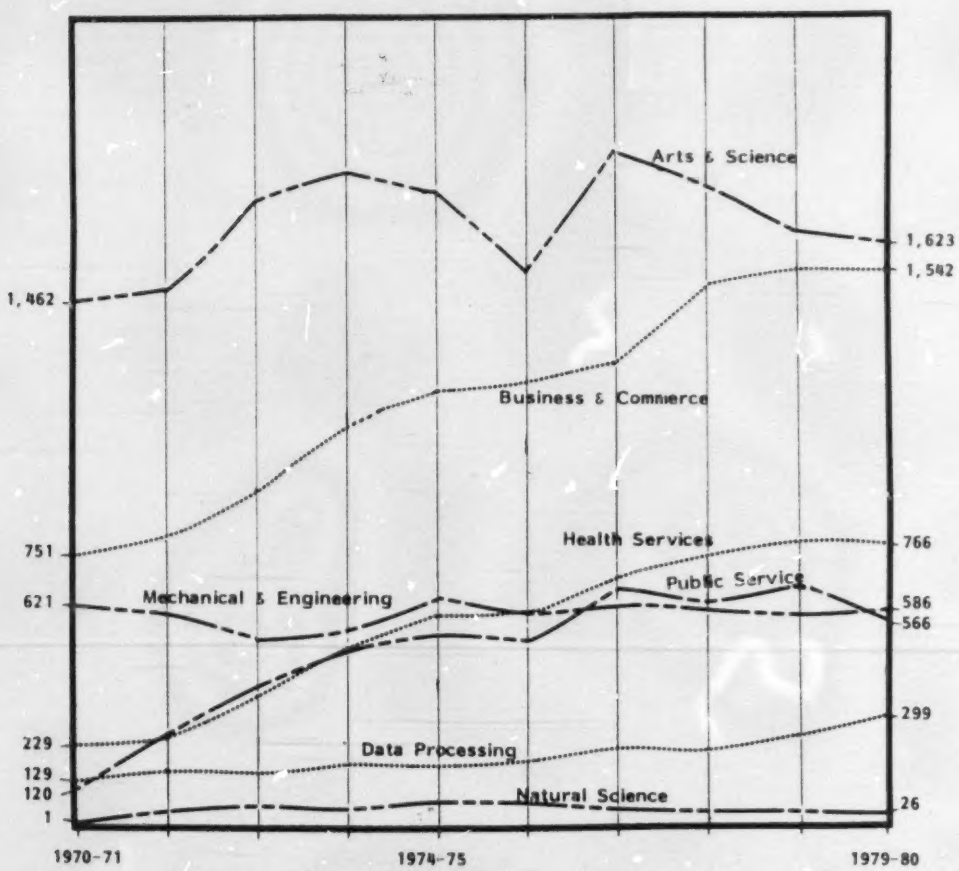
Associates Degrees

The number of associates degrees awarded rose from 3,313 in 1970-71 to 5,408 in 1979-80, with a peak one year earlier at 5,496 awards. Figure 3 shows the ten-year trend by discipline categories.

FIGURE 3

ASSOCIATES DEGREES AWARDED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISCIPLINE

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



Arts and science remains the predominant discipline at the associates degree level. There were 1,623 awards in this field in 1979-80, an 11 percent increase over the 1970-71 total of 1,462.

Business and commerce awards have more than doubled over the past ten years with 1,542 associates degrees conferred in 1979-80, compared to 751 in 1970-71. The trend has been upward, steadily closing the gap between this discipline and that of arts and science.

Awards in data processing have risen 131.8 percent, from 129 in 1970-71 to 299 in 1979-80.

Degrees in health services more than tripled in the 1970s, rising from 229 awards in 1970-71 to 766 in 1979-80, while public service associates degrees have increased almost fivefold from 120 to 566.

Awards in mechanical and engineering technologies have declined slightly over the decade, falling by 5.6 percent from 621 to 586 awards. A small number of degrees has been granted each year in the discipline of natural science.

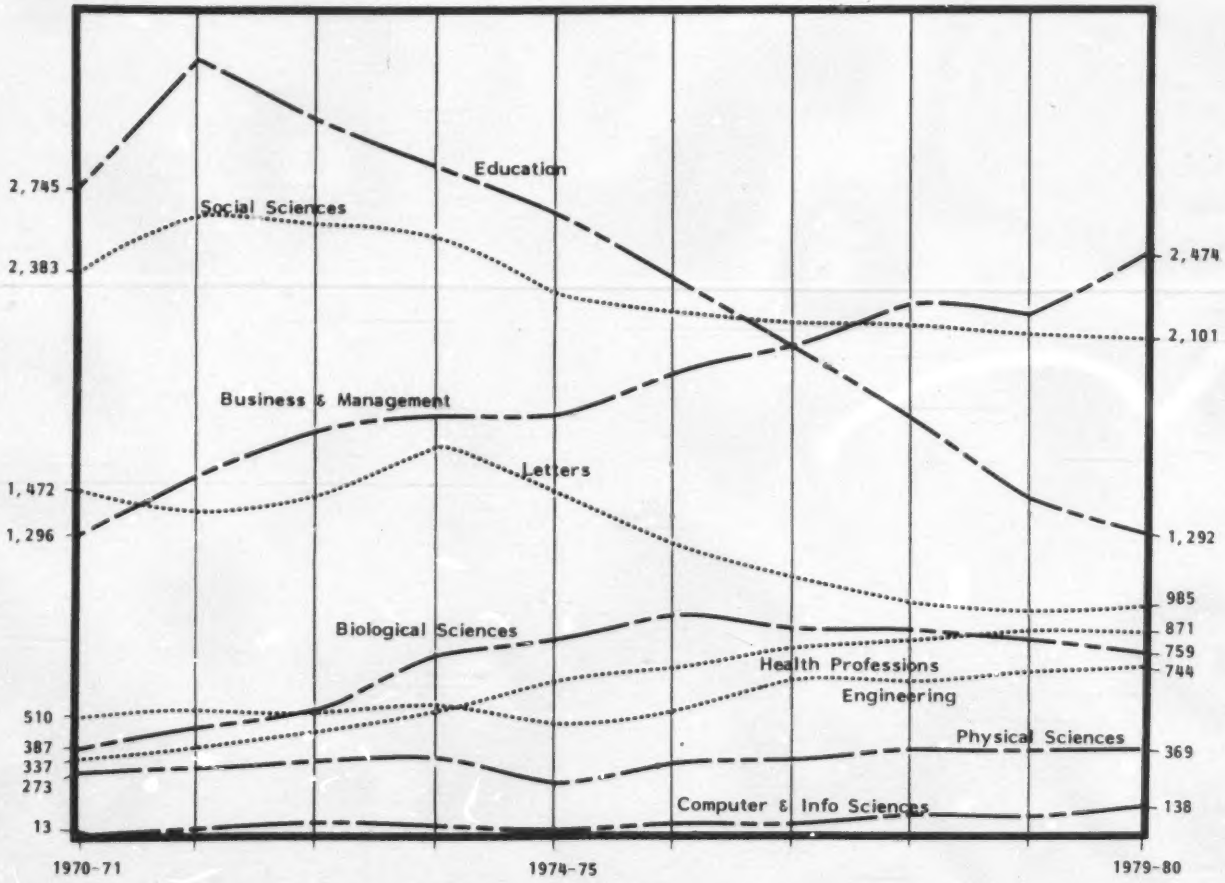
Bachelors Degrees

The number of bachelors degrees awarded rose from 11,642 in 1970-71 to 13,166 in 1979-80, with a peak of 14,542 in 1973-74. Figure 4 shows the shift in bachelors degrees conferred in selected disciplines from 1970-71 to 1979-80.

FIGURE 4

BACHELORS DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SELECTED DISCIPLINES

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



Most apparent is the rapid decline in bachelors degrees conferred in education. The 1979-80 total of 1,292 awards represents a 52.9 percent drop from the 1970-71 total of 2,745 degrees, and a 60.5 percent decline from the peak of 3,270 awards in 1971-72. Conversely, the number of bachelors degrees conferred in business and management increased to equal those in education (2,072) in 1976-77. The number of degrees conferred in business and management (2,474) in 1979-80 was almost double the number of awards in education (1,292).

Degrees conferred in letters and social sciences, the other two major discipline categories, have declined by 33.1 percent and 11.8 percent, respectively, over the ten-year period. These percentages are somewhat greater, however, when computed from the peak years, which are 1973-74 for letters (a 40.4% decline) and 1971-72 for the social sciences (a 19.9% decline).

The other five selected categories--biological sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering, health professions, and physical sciences--are in various stages of growth. The number of bachelors degrees awarded in the health professions rose 158.5 percent over the decade. Although degrees conferred in the biological sciences peaked in 1975-76 at 947 and have fallen continuously since then, the 1979-80 figure (759) still represents a 96.1 percent rise over the 387 bachelors degrees awarded in 1970-71. The numbers of degrees in the physical sciences and in engineering have grown over the decade, increasing 35.2 percent and 45.9 percent, respectively. The number of bachelors degrees conferred in computer and information sciences rose from 13 to 138 during the decade.

Masters Degrees

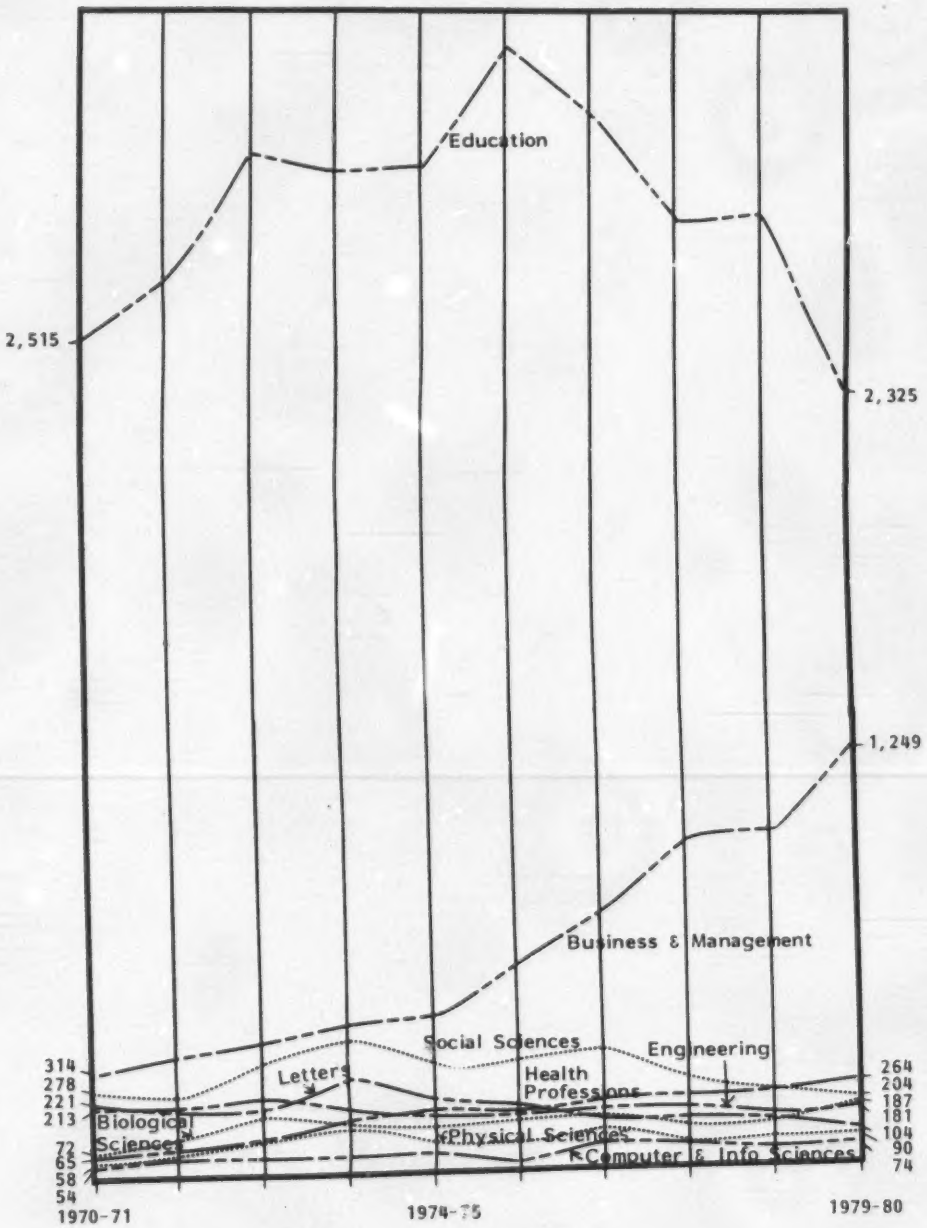
The number of masters degrees conferred rose from 5,112 in 1970-71 to 6,090 in 1979-80, peaking at 6,759 in 1975-76. Degrees conferred in selected disciplines are shown in Figure 5. Education remains the major field for masters degrees (which includes the Certificate of Advanced Study) but awards have fallen sharply since the peak of 3,337 in 1975-76, a drop of 30.3 percent by 1979-80. As is the case at the bachelors degree level, awards in business and management have risen steadily over the decade with 1,249 awards in 1979-80, a quadrupling of the 1970-71 total of 314. However, in 1979-80 there were still almost twice as many awards in education as in business and management.

Other disciplines showing gains in the number of masters degrees conferred over the course of the decade include biological sciences (up 159.7%), computer and information sciences (up 37.0%), health professions (up 306.2%), and physical sciences (up 55.2%). (Since the 1970-71 totals for each of these disciplines were under 100, these percentages are somewhat distorted when compared to percentage gains made in the more popular fields.)

FIGURE 5

MASTERS DEGREES AWARDED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SELECTED DISCIPLINES

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



Disciplines that declined in the number of degrees conferred at the masters level over the ten-year span include letters (-10.5%) and social sciences (-26.6%). These two disciplines, along with education, also declined at the bachelors degree level. Awards in engineering were down at the masters degree level (-15%) but up at the bachelors degree level (+45.9%).

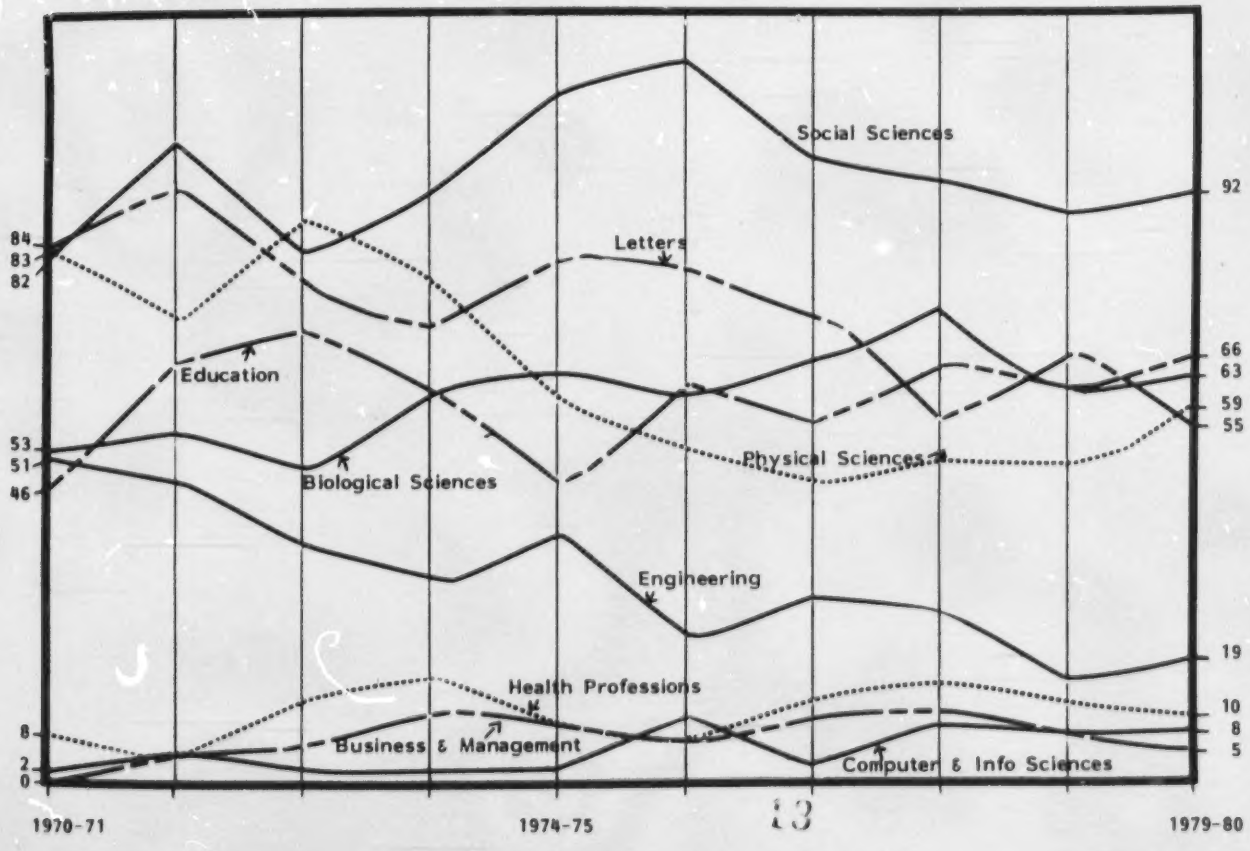
Doctoral Degrees

The number of doctoral degrees conferred remained stable over the ten-year period. In 1970-71, 519 degrees were conferred compared to 504 in 1979-80. Figure 6 shows that the number of degrees conferred by discipline is also quite stable, in part because of institutional capacities and requirements which limit the number of students in any given program. The largest number of doctoral degrees granted in an individual discipline in a single year was 113 degrees in social sciences in 1975-76.

FIGURE 6

DOCTORAL DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SELECTED DISCIPLINES

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



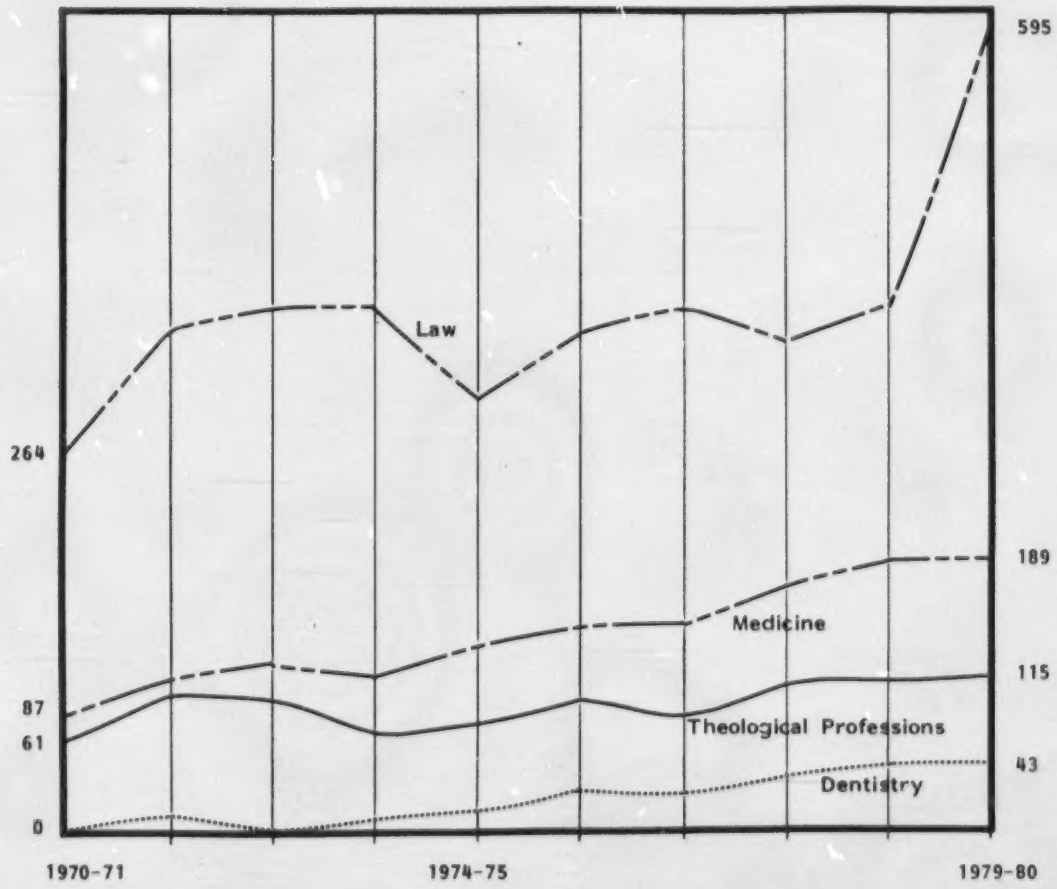
First-Professional Degrees

First-professional degrees conferred rose from 449 in 1970-71 to 942 in 1979-80. Figure 7 shows steady annual growth in medicine, up 117.2 percent over the course of the decade. Awards in law fluctuated until 1979-80, when the number of awards rose sharply as a result of the addition of a law school at the University of Bridgeport. Awards in the theological professions have exhibited mild fluctuations. First-professional degrees in dentistry and medicine have increased slowly over most of the ten-year period.

FIGURE 7

FIRST-PROFESSIONAL DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980



DEGREES CONFERRED BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

Figure 8 shows degrees conferred by type of institution for the period 1970-71 to 1979-80. The number of degrees awarded by the Regional Community Colleges has more than doubled over the past ten years, a growth rate of 134.1 percent. The peak year for awards by these institutions was 1976-77, with a combined total of 3,463 certificates and associates degrees conferred. Since this time, there has been a slow downturn, reflecting in part a decline in full-time-equivalent enrollments between 1976 and 1980.

The State Technical Colleges show a net decline of 85 degrees conferred over the ten-year period. The number of degrees conferred dropped from 909 in 1970-71 to 688 in 1974-75 (a drop of 24.3% from 1970-71) but has slowly risen since that time to 824 degrees.

The number of awards at the State Colleges peaked in 1975-76 with 6,547 degrees. Since then, the number of awards has fallen to 5,451 degrees in 1979-80, which is 16.7 percent higher than the 1970-71 figure of 4,925. Again, this drop reflects a decline in FTE enrollments from 1976 to 1980.

The peak years at the University of Connecticut were 1976-77 and 1977-78 with 5,089 and 5,082 degrees awarded, respectively. In 1978-79 and 1979-80 awards by this institution declined for the first time in this decade. Full-time-equivalent enrollments at the University of Connecticut have also declined over the period 1976 to 1980.

In the independent sector, degrees awarded by the four-year national[6] independent institutions have grown steadily between 1970-71 and 1979-80 with a peak of 4,792 degrees in 1973-74. The figure for 1979-80, 4,702 degrees, represents a 21.7 percent rise over 1970-71 but is still slightly below the peak year.

The trend in degrees conferred in the four-year regional independent institutions has been less consistent, with an increase from 5,725 awards in 1970-71 to a peak of 6,880 in 1973-74. The number of degrees conferred since has fluctuated, with a total of 6,763 degrees awarded in 1979-80, just below the number awarded in the peak year.

At the two-year independent institutions, 337 degrees were awarded in 1979-80. The number of degrees conferred has been quite stable when contributing factors are taken into consideration. The decline in 1975-76 is due to the reclassification of Post College as a four-year institution, and the increase in 1978-79 is due to the inclusion of Briarwood College, which became licensed in 1977.

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[6]A four-year independent institution is defined as a "national" institution if more than 65 percent of the full-time undergraduates are from out-of-state and total enrollment exceeds 300 students, i.e., Connecticut College, Trinity College, Wesleyan University and Yale University. The remaining four-year independent institutions are defined as "regional" institutions.

FIGURE 8

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

JULY 1, 1970 TO JUNE 30, 1980

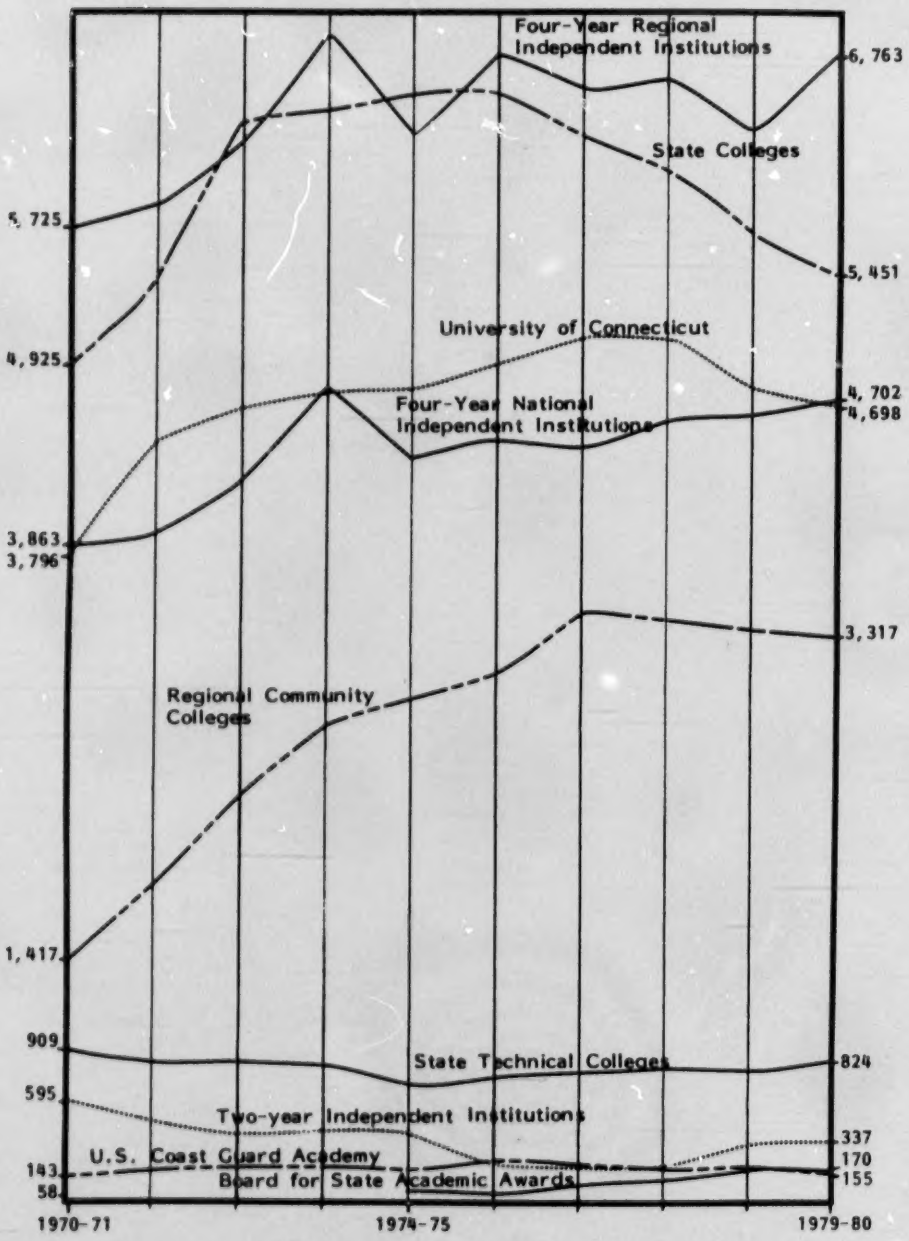

Table 4 shows the number of degrees conferred by level of award for 1970-71 and 1979-80. The percentages represent the proportion of degrees awarded at each degree level by type of institution in a given year.

The Regional Community Colleges award the largest number of associates degrees, representing approximately 60 percent of all awards in 1979-80. The number of associates degrees conferred by the State Technical Colleges has remained stable, but has decreased as a proportion of all associates degrees awarded (from 20% in 1970-71 to 13.2% in 1979-80). The number of associates degrees awarded by independent institutions has declined over the ten-year period, from 34.8 percent of all associates degrees conferred in 1970-71 to 24.9 percent in 1979-80.

The distribution of bachelors degrees conferred is quite constant over time. Master degrees are awarded in approximately the same proportion as are bachelors degrees, with the University of Connecticut granting an average of 20 percent each year, the State Colleges 28 percent, the four-year national independent institutions 20 percent, and the four-year regional independent institutions 29 percent.

At the doctoral level, approximately one-third of all degrees are conferred by the University of Connecticut (an average of 34%) while 65 percent are awarded by Yale University. The University of Connecticut's share of doctoral degrees has been rising, from 30.4 percent in 1970-71 to 38.5 percent in 1979-80.

Until recently, virtually all first-professional degrees were conferred by the University of Connecticut and Yale University. This changed in 1979-80, however, when the University of Bridgeport granted 219 law degrees, 23.2 percent of all first-professional degrees in that year.

Degrees Conferred by Discipline and Type of Institution

Table 5 ranks the leading three disciplines for bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees conferred by type of institution for the years 1970-71 and 1979-80.

Bachelors Degrees. In 1979-80, bachelors degrees in business and management ranked first at the University of Connecticut and the four-year regional independent institutions: 18.4 percent and 32.8 percent of all bachelors degrees, respectively. At the University of Connecticut, business and management ranked third in 1970-71 (11.1%). This discipline ranked first at the four-year regional independent institutions in both years.

At the four-year national independent institutions, the most popular discipline categories at the bachelors degree level were social sciences, letters, and psychology in 1970-71, with psychology being replaced by biological sciences in 1979-80. Of all bachelors degrees conferred by these institutions, 56.7 percent were in these three disciplines in 1979-80.

TABLE 4

DISTRIBUTION OF DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

1970-71 AND 1979-80

	CERTIFICATES		ASSOCIATES		BACHELORS		MASTERS		DOCTORAL		FIRST-PROFESSIONAL	
	70-71	79-80	70-71	79-80	70-71	79-80	70-71	79-80	70-71	79-80	70-71	79-80
University of Connecticut												
Number	31	53	-	-	2,408	2,925	1,094	1,189	158	194	105	337
Percent	9.2%	17.3%	-	-	20.7%	22.2%	21.4%	19.5%	30.4%	38.5%	23.4%	35.8%
State Colleges												
Number	-	-	88	67	3,325	3,636	1,512	1,748	-	-	-	-
Percent	-	-	2.7%	1.2%	28.6%	27.6%	29.6%	28.7%	-	-	-	-
Regional Community Colleges												
Number	6	112	1,411	3,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent	1.8%	36.5%	42.6%	59.3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Technical Colleges												
Number	248	110	661	714	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent	73.4%	35.8%	20.0%	13.2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bd. for State Academic Awards												
Number	-	-	-	75	-	95	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent	-	-	-	1.4%	-	0.7%	-	-	-	-	-	-
U.S. Coast Guard Academy												
Number	-	-	-	-	143	155	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent	-	-	-	-	1.2%	1.2%	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL, PUBLIC INST.												
Number	285	275	2,160	4,061	5,876	6,811	2,606	2,937	158	194	105	337
Percent	84.4%	89.6%	65.3%	75.1%	50.5%	51.7%	51.0%	48.2%	30.4%	38.5%	23.4%	35.8%
Four-Year National												
Number	-	-	-	-	2,136	2,753	1,065	1,261	355	302	307	386
Percent	-	-	-	-	18.3%	20.9%	20.8%	20.7%	68.4%	59.9%	68.4%	41.0%
Four-Year Regional												
Number	-	-	611	1,042	3,630	3,602	1,441	1,892	6	8	37	219
Percent	-	-	18.4%	19.3%	31.2%	27.4%	28.2%	31.1%	1.2%	1.6%	8.2%	23.2%
Two-Year Independent												
Number	53	32	542	305	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent	15.7%	10.4%	16.4%	5.6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL, INDEPENDENT INST.												
Number	53	32	1,153	1,347	5,766	6,355	2,506	3,153	361	310	344	605
Percent	15.7%	10.4%	34.8%	24.9%	49.5%	48.3%	49.0%	51.8%	69.6%	61.5%	76.6%	64.2%
TOTAL, ALL INSTITUTIONS												
Number	338	307	3,313	5,408	11,642	13,166	5,112	6,090	519	504	449	942
Percent	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

TABLE 5

LEADING THREE DISCIPLINE CATEGORIES FOR DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

1970-71

BACHELORS		MASTERS		DOCTORAL	
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT					
Social Sciences	20.7%	Education	33.2%	Education	29.1%
Letters	12.7%	Business & Management	16.2%	Physical Sciences	14.6%
Business & Management	11.1%	Public Affairs	10.6%	Biological Sciences	13.9%
Total	44.5%	Total	60.0%	Total	57.6%
STATE COLLEGES					
Education	48.8%	Education	76.9%		
Letters	14.0%	Letters	4.4%	Not applicable	
Social Sciences	7.5%	Social Sciences	4.0%		
Total	70.3%	Total	85.3%		
FOUR-YEAR NATIONAL					
Social Sciences	32.7%	Master of Philosophy	31.8%	Letters	20.6%
Letters	20.6%	Fine & Applied Arts	14.2%	Social Sciences	19.7%
Psychology	9.5%	Interdisciplinary	8.2%	Physical Sciences	16.9%
Total	62.8%	Total	54.2%	Total	57.2%
FOUR-YEAR REGIONAL					
Business & Management	22.2%	Education	68.7%	Letters (N=6)	100.0%
Social Sciences	17.9%	Business & Management	5.5%	--------	-
Education	16.8%	Engineering	8.0%	--------	-
Total	56.9%	Total	82.2%	Total	100.0%
U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY					
Social Sciences	49.7%				
Engineering	36.3%	Not applicable		Not applicable	
Physical Sciences	14.0%				
Total	100.0%				

1979-80

BACHELORS		MASTERS		DOCTORAL	
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT					
Business & Management	18.4%	Business & Management	29.4%	Education	33.5%
Social Sciences	11.8%	Education	27.2%	Biological Sciences	14.9%
Health Professions	10.1%	Public Affairs	13.0%	Social Sciences	13.4%
Total	40.3%	Total	69.8%	Total	61.8%
STATE COLLEGES					
Education	25.9%	Education	74.6%		
Business & Management	18.8%	Library Science	6.6%	Not applicable	
Social Sciences	14.8%	Psychology	3.9%		
Total	59.5%	Total	85.1%		
FOUR-YEAR NATIONAL					
Social Sciences	32.9%	Master of Philosophy	16.1%	Social Sciences	21.9%
Letters	14.9%	Health Professions	14.6%	Physical Sciences	14.9%
Biological Sciences	8.9%	Fine & Applied Arts	13.9%	Letters	13.9%
Total	56.7%	Total	44.6%	Total	50.7%
FOUR-YEAR REGIONAL					
Business & Management	32.8%	Business & Management	40.0%	Theology (N=7)	87.5%
Health Professions	11.5%	Education	31.4%	Education (N=1)	12.5%
Social Sciences	8.0%	Engineering	6.4%	------	-
Total	52.3%	Total	77.8%	Total	100.0%
U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY					
Engineering	29.7%				
Mathematics	20.0%	Not applicable		Not applicable	
Physical Sciences	18.1%				
Total	67.8%				
BD. FOR STATE ACADEMIC AWARDS*					
Interdisciplinary	100.0%	Not applicable		Not applicable	
Total	100.0%				

*The Board for State Academic Awards began conferring bachelors degrees in 1976-77.

Bachelors degrees in education still predominate at the State Colleges, although their proportion of the total has been declining from 48.8 percent in 1970-71 to 25.9 percent in 1979-80. Business and management moved into second place with an 18.8 percent share of bachelors degrees awarded in 1979-80.

At the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, all bachelors degrees awarded in 1970-71 were in the disciplines of social sciences, engineering, and physical sciences. By 1979-80, social sciences had been replaced by mathematics, and 67.8 percent of all awards were conferred in the top three discipline categories. All of the degrees conferred by the Board for State Academic Awards, which operates an external degree program, are in interdisciplinary arts and sciences programs.

Masters Degrees. At the University of Connecticut awards in business and management ranked first in 1979-80, surpassing education, with 29.4 of the degrees awarded at this level. Education and public affairs were among the top three disciplines in both 1970-71 and 1979-80.

At the four-year regional independent institutions, education dropped from the first to the second most popular discipline over the ten-year period; its percentage share of the total has been more than halved, falling from 64.7 percent in 1970-71 to 31.4 percent in 1979-80. Engineering and business and management have consistently appeared among the top three disciplines, with the latter replacing education in 1979-80 as the discipline with the largest number of awards. The number of business and management masters degrees awarded by four-year regional institutions as a proportion of all masters degrees has increased sharply from 9.5 percent in 1970-71 to 40 percent in 1979-80. Almost 78 percent of all masters degrees awarded by these institutions were conferred in these three discipline categories in 1979-80.

Masters degrees in education have ranked first at the State Colleges over the ten-year period, representing approximately 75 percent of all masters degrees awarded by these institutions.

Doctoral Degrees. At the doctoral degree level, almost all degrees are awarded by the University of Connecticut and Yale University.[7] Education remained at the top of the list for the University of Connecticut in 1970-71 and 1979-80. Biological sciences and social sciences were the second and third most popular disciplines in 1979-80. In 1979-80, the University of Connecticut conferred 61.8 percent of its doctoral degrees in these three discipline categories.

At Yale University, letters, social sciences, and physical sciences ranked as the disciplines with the largest number of awards in both 1970-71 and 1979-80. The order, however, has changed over the ten-year period. Approximately 50 percent of the doctoral degrees conferred in any one year by this institution are in these three discipline categories.

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[7]Wesleyan University awards fewer than 20 doctoral degrees and the Hartford Seminary Foundation fewer than 15 degrees each year.

DEGREES CONFERRED BY GENDER[8]

In 1970-71, women received 40.7 percent of all degrees awarded. This percentage grew to 47.1 percent in 1974-75 and 51.6 percent in 1979-80. During this ten-year period, women have moved from the minority to the majority at all degree levels except doctoral and first-professional. In 1979-80, women received 29.6 percent of all doctoral degrees and 27.3 percent of all first-professional degrees, compared to 15 percent and 9.4 percent in 1970-71. Table 6 provides data by discipline for 1979-80.

TABLE 6

DISTRIBUTION OF DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISCIPLINE, LEVEL AND GENDER 1979-1980

Discipline	CERTIFICATES				ASSOCIATES				Discipline	FIRST-PROFESSIONAL			
	Men		Women		Men		Women			Men		Women	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%		Number	%	Number	%
Arts & Science	2	1.7%	6	3.2%	677	31.2%	946	29.2%	Dentistry	37	5.4%	6	2.3%
Business & Commerce	15	12.7%	43	22.8%	475	21.9%	1,067	33.0%	Law	439	64.1%	156	60.7%
Data Processing	5	4.2%	1	0.5%	167	7.7%	132	4.1%	Medicine	149	21.8%	40	15.5%
Health Services	2	1.7%	38	20.1%	103	4.7%	663	20.5%	Theological Professions	60	8.7%	55	21.4%
Mechanical Engineering	65	55.1%	43	22.8%	545	25.1%	41	1.3%					
Natural Science	27	22.9%	26	13.8%	11	0.5%	15	0.5%					
Public Service	2	1.7%	32	16.9%	195	9.0%	371	11.5%					
TOTAL	118	100%	189	100%	2,173	100%	3,235	100%	TOTAL	685	100%	257	100%

Discipline	BACHELORS				MASTERS				DOCTORAL			
	Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Women	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Agriculture	103	1.6%	111	1.7%	43	1.5%	34	1.1%	5	1.4%	1	0.7%
Architecture	23	0.4%	11	0.2%	32	1.1%	14	0.4%	-	-	-	-
Area Studies	68	1.0%	94	1.4%	11	0.4%	21	0.6%	3	0.8%	4	2.7%
Biological Sciences	418	6.4%	341	5.2%	104	3.6%	83	2.6%	43	12.1%	20	13.4%
Business & Management	1,670	25.4%	804	12.2%	930	32.1%	319	10.0%	4	1.1%	1	0.7%
Communications	93	1.4%	94	1.4%	34	1.2%	31	1.0%	-	-	-	-
Computer & Info Sciences	105	1.6%	33	0.5%	57	2.0%	17	0.5%	7	2.0%	1	0.7%
Education	297	4.5%	995	15.1%	627	21.6%	1,698	53.2%	36	10.1%	30	20.1%
Engineering	695	10.6%	52	0.8%	176	6.1%	5	0.2%	18	5.1%	1	0.7%
Fine & Applied Arts	204	3.1%	383	5.8%	118	4.1%	123	3.8%	15	4.2%	11	7.4%
Foreign Languages	57	0.9%	178	2.7%	22	0.8%	30	1.0%	14	4.0%	19	12.8%
Health Professions	125	1.9%	746	11.3%	69	2.4%	195	6.1%	6	1.7%	4	2.7%
Home Economics	10	0.2%	202	3.1%	4	0.1%	13	0.4%	1	0.3%	1	0.7%
Law	3	-	10	0.2%	19	0.7%	11	0.4%	2	0.5%	-	-
Letters	394	6.0%	591	9.0%	41	1.4%	63	2.0%	42	11.8%	13	8.7%
Library Science	2	-	5	0.1%	23	0.8%	93	2.9%	-	-	-	-
Mathematics	119	1.8%	71	1.1%	13	0.4%	19	0.6%	13	3.7%	2	1.3%
Physical Sciences	278	4.2%	91	1.4%	72	2.5%	18	0.6%	51	14.4%	8	5.4%
Psychology	281	4.3%	470	7.1%	72	2.5%	102	3.2%	19	5.4%	10	6.7%
Public Affairs	207	3.2%	236	3.6%	118	4.1%	119	3.7%	-	-	-	-
Social Sciences	1,226	18.7%	875	13.3%	137	4.8%	80	2.5%	70	19.7%	22	14.8%
Theology	-	-	-	-	34	1.2%	36	1.1%	6	1.7%	1	0.7%
Interdisciplinary	188	2.8%	207	3.1%	1	-	5	0.2%	-	-	-	-
Master of Philosophy	-	-	-	-	142	4.9%	62	1.9%	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6,566	100%	6,600	100%	2,899	100%	3,191	100%	355	100%	149	100%

[8]For additional information on women in Connecticut higher education see J. Presley, "Enrollment of Women in Connecticut Institutions of Higher Education," Research Report No. 3-81, (BHE, Hartford, CT, 1981).

DEGREES CONFERRED BY ETHNICITY[9]

Data on the ethnicity of degree recipients were collected for the first time for the 1975-76 academic year. Minority students (defined as all non-white U.S. residents) received 4.9 percent of the awards in 1975-76. By 1978-79 minority students received 5.2 percent of all awards. In that same year, minorities received 5.2 percent of certificates awarded, 8.1 percent of associates degrees, 4.6 percent of bachelors degrees, 3.4 percent of masters degrees, 5.0 percent of doctoral degrees, and 8.6 percent of first-professional degrees. Table 7 shows awards by discipline for 1978-79, the last year for which data are available.

TABLE 7

DISTRIBUTION OF DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISCIPLINE, LEVEL AND MINORITY STATUS 1978-1979

Discipline	CERTIFICATES				ASSOCIATES				Discipline	FIRST-PROFESSIONAL			
	Minority		Non-Minority		Minority		Non-Minority			Minority		Non-Minority	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%		Number	%	Number	%
Arts & Science	-	-	5	1.7%	155	35.0%	1,481	29.3%	Dentistry	1	1.6%	42	6.3%
Business & Commerce	6	37.5%	69	23.6%	123	27.8%	1,431	28.3%	Law	27	42.8%	356	54.2%
Data Processing	-	-	4	1.4%	16	3.6%	230	4.6%	Medicine	26	41.3%	160	24.4%
Health Services	1	6.2%	59	20.2%	36	8.1%	755	14.9%	Theological Professions	9	14.3%	99	15.1%
Mechanical Engineering	5	31.3%	68	23.3%	33	7.5%	543	10.8%					
Natural Science	-	-	59	20.2%	7	1.6%	30	0.6%					
Public Service	4	25.0%	28	9.6%	73	16.4%	583	11.5%					
TOTAL	16	100%	292	100%	443	100%	5,053	100%	TOTAL	63	100%	657	100%

Discipline	BACHELORS				MASTERS				DOCTORAL			
	Minority		Non-Minority		Minority		Non-Minority		Minority		Non-Minority	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Agriculture	4	0.7%	259	2.1%	1	0.5%	62	1.0%	-	-	12	2.5%
Architecture	6	1.0%	28	0.2%	-	-	41	0.7%	-	-	-	-
Area Studies	14	2.3%	128	1.0%	1	0.5%	33	0.6%	3	11.5%	4	0.8%
Biological Sciences	52	8.7%	783	6.3%	6	2.8%	134	2.2%	5	19.2%	80	12.1%
Business & Management	81	13.6%	2,110	17.1%	23	10.8%	972	16.2%	-	-	7	1.4%
Communications	10	1.7%	117	0.9%	1	0.5%	34	0.6%	-	-	-	-
Computer & Info Sciences	8	1.3%	92	0.7%	4	1.9%	76	1.3%	1	3.8%	6	1.2%
Education	42	7.0%	1,373	11.1%	65	30.5%	2,623	43.8%	2	7.7%	59	12.1%
Engineering	20	3.4%	689	5.6%	3	1.4%	153	2.6%	-	-	16	3.3%
Fine & Applied Arts	26	4.4%	535	4.3%	13	6.1%	258	4.3%	3	11.5%	36	7.4%
Foreign Languages	17	2.8%	208	1.7%	7	3.3%	58	1.0%	2	7.7%	19	3.9%
Health Professions	14	2.3%	865	7.0%	14	6.6%	228	3.8%	1	3.8%	11	2.3%
Home Economics	7	1.2%	207	1.7%	1	0.5%	11	0.2%	-	-	2	0.4%
Law	-	-	6	0.0%	-	-	25	0.4%	-	-	8	1.6%
Letters	41	6.9%	907	7.3%	5	2.3%	137	2.3%	5	19.2%	62	12.8%
Library Science	-	-	13	0.1%	1	0.5%	110	1.8%	-	-	-	-
Mathematics	8	1.3%	188	1.5%	2	0.9%	36	0.6%	-	-	14	2.9%
Physical Sciences	8	1.3%	350	2.8%	5	2.3%	76	1.3%	1	3.8%	48	9.9%
Psychology	58	9.7%	785	6.3%	3	1.4%	176	2.9%	1	3.8%	29	6.0%
Public Affairs	44	7.5%	395	3.2%	27	12.7%	209	3.5%	-	-	-	-
Social Sciences	126	21.1%	1,993	16.1%	14	6.6%	225	3.8%	-	-	86	17.7%
Theology	-	-	-	-	2	0.9%	61	1.0%	2	7.7%	4	0.8%
Interdiscipline	11	1.8%	361	2.9%	2	0.9%	8	0.1%	-	-	3	0.6%
Master of Philosophy	-	-	-	-	13	6.1%	242	4.0%	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	597	100%	12,400	100%	213	100%	5,988	100%	26	100%	486	100%

[9]For additional information on minorities in Connecticut higher education see W. Hagan and J. Presley, "Minority Enrollment in Connecticut Institutions of Higher Education," Research Report No. 2-81, (BHE, Hartford, CT, 1981).

APPENDIX A

HEGIS TAXONOMY OF DEGREE DISCIPLINES

CERTIFICATES AND ASSOCIATES DEGREES

- Arts and Science or General Programs
- Business and Commerce Technologies
- Data Processing Technologies
- Health Services and Paramedical Technologies
- Mechanical and Engineering Technologies
- Natural Science Technologies
- Public Service Related Technologies

BACHELORS, MASTERS, AND DOCTORAL DEGREES

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Environmental Design
- Area Studies
- Biological Sciences
- Business and Management
- Communications
- Computer and Information Sciences
- Education
- Engineering
- Fine and Applied Arts
- Foreign Languages
- Health Professions
- Home Economics
- Law
- Letters
- Library Science
- Mathematics
- Military Sciences*
- Physical Sciences
- Psychology
- Public Affairs and Services
- Social Sciences
- Theology
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Master of Philosophy**

FIRST-PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

- Chiropractic*
- Dentistry
- Law
- Medicine
- Optometry*
- Osteopathic Medicine*
- Pharmacy*
- Podiatry*
- Theological Professions
- Veterinary Medicine*

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*These programs are unavailable in Connecticut institutions of higher education.

**This is an intermediate degree which is grouped with the masters degrees, as is the Certificate of Advanced Study.

This report is one of a series of research reports prepared by the Board of Higher Education. Other Reports in this series are

Higher Education Staff Information Survey, R-1-80

Enrollment in Connecticut Higher Education, R-1-81

Minority Enrollment in Connecticut Institutions of Higher Education, R-2-81

Women in Connecticut Higher Education, R-3-81

Democraphic Changes and Their Impact on Higher Education Enrollment in Connecticut, R-4-81

Other BHE publications include

Anticipating the 1980s: Report and Recommendations to the General Assembly on Higher Education in Connecticut, September 1979

Higher Education: A Connecticut Resource, annual brochure

Public and Independent Colleges and Universities in Connecticut, annual directory

Higher Education in Connecticut: A Status Report, January 1981

This report was prepared by Persis C. Rickes, Research Assistant, Office of Research, Management Information Systems, and Student Financial Assistance, Board of Higher Education, 203-566-7211.